

section.

1 6. (Amended) A composite holding device, comprising:

2 ~~Subj~~ a holder body for holding a medium to serve a prescribed purpose; and

3 a cap for detachably covering the holder body,

4 wherein the cap comprises:

5 a casing for accommodating a plurality of holders, each holder for holding a

6 medium to serve a purpose either different from or similar to that of said medium;

7 a supporting section for supporting said holders to be movable in an axial

8 direction in the casing;

9 a feed mechanism, provided in the casing, for selectively advancing one of the

10 plurality of holders; and

11 a manipulating mechanism for operating the feed mechanism, being adapted to

12 project a tip of one of the plurality of holders out of a fore end opening at a tip of the casing

13 and make usable the tip of one of the plurality of holders.

7. (Amended) The composite holding device, as set forth in claim 6, wherein the supporting section is adapted to support a section of each holder such that the supported section is adapted to be rotatably supported in relation to the supporting section.

11. (Amended) The composite holding device, as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

~~Subj~~ said casing comprises an external sleeve, an intermediate sleeve fitted inside the external sleeve with assistance of an ancillary sleeve, and a nose rotatable in relation to the external sleeve and the intermediate sleeve;

an internal thread is formed on an inner circumferential face of the intermediate sleeve and a slit is formed on an internally threaded part of the intermediate sleeve;

an external thread is formed on an outer circumferential face of the ancillary sleeve;

one of an externally threaded part of the ancillary sleeve and the internally threaded part of the intermediate sleeve has a tapered shape; and

the external thread of said ancillary sleeve inserted into the external sleeve and the intermediate sleeve engages the internal thread of the intermediate sleeve inserted into the

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external sleeve, the slit of the intermediate sleeve being expanded to press the internally threaded part against an inner circumferential face of the external sleeve to fix the intermediate sleeve to the external sleeve, thereby to fit the intermediate sleeve inside the external sleeve.

Subh 17. (Amended) The composite holding device, as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

 said casing comprises an external sleeve, an intermediate sleeve fitted inside the external sleeve with the assistance of an ancillary sleeve, and a nose rotatable in relation to the external sleeve and the intermediate sleeve;

 an internal thread is formed on an inner circumferential face of the intermediate sleeve and a slit is formed on an internally threaded part of the intermediate sleeve;

 an external thread is formed on an outer circumferential face of the ancillary sleeve;

 one of an externally threaded part of the ancillary sleeve and the internally threaded part of the intermediate sleeve has a tapered shape; and

 the internal thread of the intermediate sleeve inserted into the external sleeve engages with the external thread of said ancillary sleeve inserted into the external sleeve and the intermediate sleeve, the slit of the intermediate sleeve being expanded to press the internally threaded part against an inner circumferential face of the external sleeve to fix the intermediate sleeve to the external sleeve, thereby to fit the intermediate sleeve inside the external sleeve.

Subh 1 20. (Amended) A holding device, comprising:

 a casing for accommodating a plurality of holders for holding media;

 a supporting section for supporting said holders to be movable;

 means for selectively advancing one of the plurality of holders; and

 means for operating the advancing means, being adapted to project a tip of one of the plurality of holders out of a fore end opening at a tip of the casing and make usable the tip of one of the plurality of holders,

 wherein the supporting section is adapted to support a section of each holder such that

 the supported section is adapted to be rotatably supported in relation to the supporting section.